

Application No.: 09/982,997

Docket No.: 4468-031

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please enter new FIG. 11 which does not include new matter.

Attachment:

➤ New FIG. 11

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Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough review of the present application, and respectfully request reconsideration in light of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Independent claims 1, 2, and 6-8 have been amended to better define the claimed invention. New claims 10-16 have been added to provide Applicants with the scope of protection to which they are believed entitled. New FIG. 11 has been added to overcome the Examiner's drawing objection. The specification has been revised in the manner kindly suggested by the Examiner in paragraph 4 of the Office Action, and to be consistent with the newly added figure. The Abstract has been amended to be compliant with commonly accepted US patent practice. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The drawing objection is believed overcome in view of the new figure, i.e., FIG. 11, attached herewith. New FIG. 11 finds solid support in the original specification, e.g., at page 6, the last sentence, and page 14, the third paragraph. The specification has been revised to be consistent with the newly added figure. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the drawing objection has been overcome and no further correction will be necessary. However, if the Examiner insists otherwise, would he please call the undersigned so that necessary drawing correction satisfying the Examiner's requirements may be timely filed.

The objections to the Abstract, specification and claims are all believed overcome in view of the above amendments.

The 35 U.S.C. 102(e) rejection of claims 1-9 as being anticipated by *Takahashi* (U.S. Patent No. 6,882,445) is noted. Although Applicants do not agree with the Examiner's position that *Takahashi* anticipates the original claimed invention, amendments have nevertheless been made to

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specifically define the claimed invention over *Takahashi*.

In particular, amended independent claim 1 now recites the additional limitation that "a color space in which an image processing is performed using the three dimensional color correction table is wider than a color space in which an image processing is performed using an one-dimensional color correction table." This newly added limitation finds support in the original specification, e.g., at page 14, the second paragraph and page 15, the last paragraph. An advantage of the claimed invention is also discussed in the cited portions. A person of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that *Takahashi* does not teach or disclose the newly added limitation, and therefore, the reference does not anticipate amended claim 1.

Independent claims 2 and 6-8 have been amended in a similar manner and are not anticipated by *Takahashi*.

Claims 3-5 and 9 depend from claim 2, and are considered patentable at least for the reason advanced with respect to amended claim 2.

Withdrawal of the anticipatory rejection of claims 1-9 in view of the above amendments and arguments is now believed appropriate and therefore respectfully requested.

New claims 10-16 depend either from independent claim 1 or independent claim 2, and are considered patentable at least for the reason advanced with respect to the independent claims. The new claims are also patentable on their own merits since these claims recite other features of the invention neither disclosed, taught nor suggested by the applied art.

For example, as to claim 10, *Takahashi* clearly fails to teach or suggest that the white point of the gamut of the image input signal and said maximum brightness point of the gamut of the image output device initially have different brightness values; said method further comprising scaling the gamut of the image output device to obtain a scaled gamut which has a scaled maximum

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brightness point corresponding to said maximum brightness point of the gamut of the image output device and having the same brightness value as the white point of the gamut of the image input signal. This limitation is supported by at least FIG. 4 of the instant application which discloses that the maximum brightness point (intersection of axis L and dot-dash line) of the gamut of the image output device and the white point (intersection of axis L and dot-dot line) of the gamut of the image input signal have different brightness values (different L coordinates). In FIG. 5 of *Takahashi* which the Examiner believes to read on the claimed invention, the brightness of the maximum brightness point of the output gamut and the "white point" of the input gamut are one and the same (highest point on L axis) and, therefore, have the same brightness.

As to claims 11-16, *Takahashi* clearly fails to teach or suggest that, in said scaling, color values of a color point in the gamut of the image output device are all multiplied by the same constant to obtain color values of a corresponding color point in the scaled gamut. This limitation is supported by page 12, line 5 and equation (7) of the specification. In FIG. 5 of *Takahashi* which the Examiner believes to read on the claimed invention, the output gamut is not scaled in the presently claimed manner. See also equation (4) and column 18, lines 62-67 of *Takahashi*.

Each of the Examiner's rejections has been traversed/overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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